

KARO-ECHO Board Meeting

12/08/21

via Zoom

Attendees:

Hal Graboske	KK6NDF
Don Simon	NI6A
Larry Vanselow	KK6GIO
Annette McCoubrey	KJ6SWK
Blake Yeaman	KN6CMP
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY

Proposed agenda:

- Nominating Committee report & Election/Installation of 2022 officers
- Constitution update
- MOU consideration (attached- please review)
- Tech/infrastructure action items
- Hybrid meetings and in - person meeting site
- Summary report on the SET (Howdy will present at the general)

Topics discussed:

Training

- A review of the Nov. 13 SET will be made at the Dec. 13 membership meeting when Howdy is present.
- A CERT area hub that communicates with both ham and FRS/GMRS operators will need at least 2 people for a SET or real emergency. It is not practical for 1 operator to try to handle both ham and neighborhood FRS/GMRS traffic at the same time.

Elections

- Nominations made by the nomination committee are
 - president: Howdy
 - VP: Frans

- secretary: Tom
- treasurer: Annette.
- Additional nominations are welcomed at the Dec. 13 members' meeting.
- Newly elected officers will be installed at the end of the December membership meeting.

Dues payment

- A paywall method of dues payment through the KARO-ECHO website will be looked into, possibly in January.
- Dues paid in the middle of the calendar year may be prorated for the number of remaining months in the calendar year.
- There will be a 1 month grace period for January to allow time for dues payment to be made.

Constitution

- The constitution committee has been working through many suggestions and many revisions.
- Members will vote to approve the updates to the constitution at the Jan. 10 membership meeting. A two thirds majority is required for approval.
- A proposal was made for the secretary to keep a list of future suggestions for updates to the constitution so that they are not forgotten at the time of the next constitution update.
- Definition of a quorum:
 - The board decided on 25% of the board meeting attendees and 50% of the voting members for the membership meeting. If factional, the numbers will be rounded up. This will be added to the constitution.
 - Board members count as 1 person regardless of how many positions they fill.
 - Meetings should begin with an announcement, recorded by the secretary, of whether there is a quorum present.

Memorandum of Understanding

- An MOU would form an official relationship between KARO-ECHO and any entity with whom it would be mutually beneficial.
- The MOU can be formal or informal.
- An existing old version of an MOU mentions only EBARC, not KARO-ECHO.
- An MOU with the El Cerrito Fire Department could possibly lead to an in-person meeting space.
- Don, working with Hal and Blake, will write an MOU to be sent to El Cerrito Fire Chief Pigone with a cover letter asking for an in person meeting.

Technical / Infrastructure

- A technical maintenance committee is needed to test radios, batteries, antennas, and

patchboxes installed in clubhouses or fire stations, and make repairs when necessary.

- A project manager is needed to head the committee and volunteers are needed to maintain the various locations.
- Members have volunteered in the past but the maintenance did not continue after a while.
- Records need to be kept on what equipment needs to be tested, what has been tested, and what needs maintenance.
- A patchbox for the KCC ham antenna still needs to be installed.
- Hal will ask for permission to install a GMRS antenna and patchbox at the KCC.
- Antennas and patchboxes also need to be installed at Canyon Trail Park and other clubhouses.

In-person Meeting location

- Monthly membership meetings will hopefully return to in-person meetings soon but some members may still prefer to participate via Zoom or the equivalent. A prospective meeting location will need to have internet service.
- Hal is working with the KCC as a possible location for in-person meetings but it could take months before it is OKed so an alternative may be needed.

Website

- Rob made a proposal to update the questionnaire that a new applicant answers when joining KARO-ECHO.
- Should members and new applicants be asked whether they would give permission for their contact information to be made available to other members?

Neighborhood nets

- A very successful and active FRS/GMRS neighborhood net has been organized by KE6HCE